

Excerpt from Machiavelli's *The Prince*:

Background: Machiavelli was an influential writer and politician in Florence during the Renaissance. His most famous work is *The Prince* (*Il Principe*), which was a set of guidelines and advice for rulers to gain and effectively maintain power.

“A controversy has arisen about this: whether it is better to be loved than feared, or vice versa. My view is that it is desirable to be both loved and feared; but it is difficult to achieve both and, if one of them has to be lacking, it is much safer to be feared than loved... For love is sustained by a bond of gratitude which, because men are excessively self-interested, is broken whenever they see a chance to benefit themselves. But fear is sustained by a dread of punishment that is always effective.”



PART 1

1) According to the Prince, what does Machiavelli believe to be the key ingredients for effective leadership?

2) Which quotation from the text supports your answer to question number one? _____

PART 2

The following text presents the same paragraph as five individual sentences. Translate each sentence into your own words.

3) A controversy has arisen about this: whether it is better to be loved than feared, or vice versa.

4) My view is that it is desirable to be both loved and feared.

5) It is difficult to achieve both and, if one of them has to be lacking, it is much safer to be feared than loved.

6) For love is sustained by a bond of gratitude which, because men are excessively self-interested, is broken whenever they see a chance to benefit themselves.

7) But fear is sustained by a dread of punishment that is always effective.

8) To what degree do you agree with Machiavelli's advice? Explain...

9) This advice was for rulers. But consider how it might be applied to the way a parent runs a household, or the way a teacher runs a classroom. Describe a parent or a teacher and explain whether or not they have used Machiavelli's advice, that it is better to be feared than loved.
